

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Akaka	Gillibrand	Nelson (FL)
Baucus	Hagan	Pryor
Bayh	Harkin	Reed
Begich	Inouye	Reid
Bingaman	Johnson	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Kaufman	Schumer
Burr	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Kohl	Specter
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Conrad	Levin	Udall (NM)
Dodd	Lieberman	Warner
Durbin	Lincoln	Webb
Feingold	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Mikulski	
Franken	Nelson (NE)	

NAYS—39

Barrasso	Cornyn	McCain
Bennet	DeMint	McConnell
Bennett	Ensign	Menendez
Bond	Enzi	Merkley
Brown (MA)	Graham	Risch
Brownback	Grassley	Roberts
Bunning	Gregg	Sessions
Burr	Hatch	Shelby
Chambliss	Inhofe	Snowe
Coburn	Johanns	Thune
Cochran	Kyl	Vitter
Collins	LeMieux	Voinovich
Corker	Lugar	Wyden

NOT VOTING—12

Alexander	Dorgan	Murkowski
Boxer	Hutchison	Murray
Byrd	Isakson	Rockefeller
Crapo	Kerry	Wicker

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 257) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 257

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, March 24, 2010, through Monday, March 29, 2010, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Thursday, March 25, 2010, through Wednesday, March 31, 2010, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, April 12, 2010, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONTINUING EXTENSION ACT OF 2010—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have spoken with Senator COBURN, and he and I reached an agreement about which I will propound a unanimous consent request.

I ask unanimous consent that the time between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. be evenly divided between his side and our side in 15-minute segments; the first 15-minute segment will be for our side, the Democratic side, for those Members wishing to speak in favor of the 30-day extension; the next 30 minutes to Senator COBURN on the Republican side for those sharing his position; and the last 15 minutes back to our side until we reach the end of this debate at 9:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Then at 9:30 p.m., there may be some procedural issues unrelated to the substantive issue which we will be discussing between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., but that has to be worked out between both sides.

To initiate the debate on this side, I yield to the Senator from Rhode Island, Mr. REED, for such time as he may consume within the 15-minute segment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, on April 5, the extension that was recently voted for extended unemployment compensation benefits will expire. We need to at least provide for a temporary extension while we await the resolution of a much broader piece of legislation that is in the House today which would provide for an extension of unemployment benefits from today until the end of the calendar year, as well as FMAP payments to the States and other provisions.

This is absolutely critical. In my home State of Rhode Island, we have basically a 13-percent unemployment rate—12.7 percent. We have a record number of long-term unemployed people. This is not a situation, as in the past, where there was a temporary labor crisis. This has been going on in Rhode Island for almost 2 years or more, and people have reached the end of their resources and the end of their patience. For many, the only thing that is sustaining them—and not particularly well—is the fact they are still getting some unemployment benefits.

So we have to move very aggressively to provide a solution. We have never, in the last several decades—reaching back at least as far as the 1980s—denied extended unemployment benefits as long as the unemployment rate nationally was at least 7.4 percent. It is 10 percent, and in many States it is higher than that—Rhode Island being one of those States. So this would break tradition in terms of disrupting, interrupting, preventing extended benefits at a time when we have 10 percent unemployment.

We have persistently seen this, accurately and realistically, as an emergency—an emergency that allows us to provide funding without offsets. That is something that I think still is compelling. This is an emergency. Perhaps one of the ironies that will take place on this floor in the next several weeks is that we will call up a supplemental budget from the Department of Defense which, as I understand, will not be offset totally. One of the ironies is that we will be providing benefits—because part of our strategy in Afghanistan and Iraq is civic engagement—we will be providing employment opportunities and investment in infrastructure for Afghans and Iraqis without offset, which is my understanding at the moment. The irony, of course, is that for our own citizens we are claiming: No, we can't do that.

The other side has accumulated, under the Bush administration, a huge debt. In fact, in the term of the Bush administration, the national debt grew astronomically. Part of it was because repeatedly the Republican side refused to provide offsets to the funding for the war in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, and Medicare Part D, which was an entitlement payment for seniors in terms of their drug prescriptions. They thought that paying for things was an undue constraint on their plans. But now that we are in a crisis that affects Americans, there is the insistence during this emergency of paying for it, which contradicts practice and contradicts the real needs out there.

One final point. We are now beginning to see some very limited progress on the employment front. This week's report about jobs caused a very positive reaction in the marketplace because the number of first-time claimants for unemployment compensation dropped much further than they thought. That suggests we are beginning to bottom out. There are other reports that suggest we will see some job growth beginning. That is because of the stimulus efforts we have undertaken today and in the past.

Part of that stimulus effort has been unemployment compensation insurance. For every dollar we invest in unemployment compensation, there is \$1.90 growth in economic activity. That is the result of studies over many years. So when we don't invest in these types of programs, we are not only denying sustenance to many families, we are also not providing the kind of economic stimulus that the country needs to move forward.

So for all those reasons and more, I hope we can move, in the course of this evening or tomorrow, to adopt a measure that will allow us to continue the funding for unemployment compensation.

With that, I thank the Senator from Illinois, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I yield 5 minutes to the Senator from Michigan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, first, I wish to thank the Senator from Illinois for his leadership on this issue, as well as my friend from Rhode Island who has been such a staunch fighter, and other colleagues on the floor.

I can't help but think: Here they go again. One more time we are in a situation where we need to extend unemployment benefits for people who are out of work, through no fault of their own—breadwinners not bringing home the bread, through no fault of their own—and we are right back where we were before with the Senator from Kentucky, who held up the ability for us to move forward to help families, to help people who have lost their jobs or are out of work and looking for work, who are caught up in an economic tsunami, an economic disaster, through no fault of their own. Here we are again.

We just left a debate where we went most of last night with the same kind of effort to block, to stall, to say no, and to try to stop us from moving ahead and doing something very important for families, small businesses, tackling the national debt in this country, and with health insurance reform. We just went through hours and hours and hours with our colleagues on the other side becoming just a party of no and playing games, holding up things politically, finding tricks to make people vote on things they support, knowing if they do, that will stop us from moving forward on health insurance reform.

We finished that. We made it through. We cast the votes and achieved the goal for the American people of saving money for middle-class families, saving money for small businesses, saving money for seniors on their medicines, and putting in place something that will make a difference in bringing down cost and making sure every family can finally have a family doctor. The same day we finally get through all that, here we are again.

I come from the State with the highest unemployment in this country, and it is not because people in Michigan don't want to work. People in Michigan know how to work. They work very hard. They are out looking for work. People are trying to hold it together, some with part-time jobs right now, trying to just get through until they can get back a job that is going to allow them to be able to take care of their families and have some sense of security; to stop holding their breath while they are waiting for things to turn around. But we are in a situation right now where we have six people looking for every job. Six people are vying for every job.

People are caught in an economic disaster that they didn't create, and our job has been to help them get through that so they can keep a roof over their head, food on the table, take care of their kids as we work to create an economic situation, partnering with

business, to turn this around. Things are beginning to turn around but not fast enough for any of us. We are working very hard to turn that around, but the reality is we still have more than 700,000 people in Michigan who have lost a job and who want to work. They are out of work, through no fault of their own, and find themselves in a situation where they are looking to their government to understand the situation for their family and place some value on that.

We seem to be able to pay for things when people think it is important. I have been here long enough to live through a situation where tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans somehow were passed even though they weren't paid for—and more than once. My guess is there will be proposals to do it again. But when you are talking about somebody who has worked all their lives and finds themselves in a situation where they do not have a job because of what is happening in the economy, then we say, but for you—for you—we are going to have a different set of rules. We are going to have a different set of rules. We are not going to treat this as a disaster—an economic disaster—as we have at every other time in our country where we move forward with emergency spending. For you, because you are not as important as those folks on Wall Street or the folks who got the big tax cuts, we are going to have a different set of rules.

Well, that is why we are here, because we don't think that is fair. We don't think that is right. It is not right.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used 5 minutes.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, as I yield the floor, I wish to say we are going to be here, and we are going to keep fighting over and over again, as things move forward this year and beyond, on behalf of the people who want a job and who don't have one today, who are counting on us to help them make it through this and do what they need to do to care for their families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Michigan, and I yield the remaining time of the 15 minutes to the Senator from Oregon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon is recognized.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in talking about the challenge that is faced by America's working families. Back home in Oregon, our economy has been hit pretty hard. We have a timber industry, and when you aren't building houses across the country, then you can't sell lumber. So we have mills going out of business across the State of Oregon and a lot of people unemployed—a lot of unemployed people who would be working in the woods cutting down the trees as well as working in the mills. Then we have the challenge of our manufacturing industry that has been hit pret-

ty hard too. We build a lot of RVs and light planes, and those products aren't selling too well in this recession. We have a fruit industry and we have a Christmas tree industry. We ship a lot of that overseas, but the foreign demand is down, and domestic demand is down as well. We have those Mexican tariffs that have been applied to Christmas trees and fruit as well, which has had a pretty strong impact.

You pile up all of this on a State that is on the Pacific Rim and add to that the fact that the entire Pacific Rim economy is depressed, and you have a State that not so long ago was second in the Nation only to Michigan in terms of unemployment.

Well, things have improved a little in Oregon. We are no longer second worst, partly because many other States have continued to get worse. We are at about 11 percent. That is just about twice the unemployment we had not so long ago. That is a lot of struggling families. Unemployment is a program that helps keep the economy in gear during a difficult recession. It helps break the headlong rush into a depression. It helps families stabilize while they are looking for a job.

Unemployment compensation is not a sweet deal. You don't get paid a great deal with unemployment but maybe just enough to get by so your house isn't one more foreclosed property; so you are not one more family on the street, wondering where you are going to live; so there isn't one more set of children whose schooling has been disrupted and their path in life has been disrupted and as a parent you wonder how it will impact them down the road. This is about us watching out for each other here in America.

I can tell you it has been very frustrating to me to watch Members of this body during the last two administrations decide to do things in which they said: You know what, we are going to give away the Treasury to the wealthiest Americans, and we are not going to have any way of paying for it because we just to want give away money to the wealthy. So the wealthy are doing very well in America. But what about the workers in our Nation? The average compensation for a working family plateaued the year I graduated from high school—1974. During the 36 years since, working families have been earning the same amount. Yet the productivity of our Nation has gone up enormously. Where did all that wealth go? All that wealth went to the wealthiest Americans. Then my colleagues across the aisle are going to stand up tonight and self-righteously proclaim we should not do this without paying.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the majority has expired.

Mr. MERKLEY. We need to extend this unemployment for working families, not kick them when they are down.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. COBURN. I think we had an agreement with the majority whip that

some unanimous consent requests would come in; is that correct? I will be happy to yield out of our time to the majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am now going to be asking unanimous consent that would extend the unemployment benefits for an additional 30 days. I make it formally in this form.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 323, H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs; that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, it is my understanding if we were to do that we would add \$9.2 billion to the debt. I am wondering if that is correct. The same unanimous consent request was asked earlier today, and the head of the Finance Committee said it would add \$9.2 billion to the debt. So given the fact that it will add to the debt rather than us making choices, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. Who yields time?

Mr. COBURN. I yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Alabama.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I appreciate so much Senator COBURN's leadership on this very important matter. I think we are at a defining moment. I take offense for those who say we have no interest in extending unemployment insurance. My State has high unemployment. We were doing very well, and it has doubled now from where we were in unemployment.

My home area is one of the worst in the State. I am well aware of that. Members of the Senate on this side of the aisle strongly favor extending unemployment insurance and actually extending other benefits, too, such as the doctors fix that we need to do, the COBRA and FMAP and matters of that kind which are in the legislation and we believe should be passed into law. There is just one thing that I would raise, and that is that we want it to be in a way that does not increase, again, the debt because here we go again.

Our colleagues passed an amendment, passed the pay-go law a few weeks ago, and within a few days they were violating it. This violates it again. What we need to ask ourselves, then, is how we are going to help people who are in need. Are we going to do it in a responsible way or will we take the easy way out, pass the debt on to our children and grandchildren without the least concern, it seems, about how we are going to pay for it?

My colleague just recently said we should call it an emergency. Unemployment insurance is fundamentally one of our established government programs, he said, because that allows us to provide this benefit without an off-

set. That is precisely what the deal is, you understand. He was quite honest about it. We do not have to pay for it; we don't have to look for money; we don't have to cut waste, fraud, and abuse; we don't have to reach into the stimulus bill that we passed, which was announced to be for unemployment insurance as one of its primary motives and use that money that is unspent—and \$100 billion or \$200 billion still remains unspent. Why don't we use that money? It would not then increase the debt larger than we now have.

We proposed a number of other offsets, offsets that our Democratic colleagues have utilized in legislation they have offered. We have suggested to our colleagues, what other containment of spending would you propose, and we would be willing to consider if you would use that to pay for this. But the day of just continuing to increase our debt is passed.

This Senate needs to face the truth, and the truth is we will double the entire debt of the United States in 5 years, ending 2013. We will triple the entire debt of the United States in 2019. In 2019 the interest on the debt that we will be paying in that 1 year will be \$800 billion. Just last year the interest on the total debt of the United States was \$170 billion. We cannot continue this. Every economist who has ever testified before our Budget Committee has said repeatedly this is unsustainable. When do we stop if it is unsustainable? Members of our Senate say it is unsustainable, on both sides of the aisle. When do we stop?

Senator COBURN had the courage to say: Now, we can pay for this. We have moneys unspent that we can use to pay for the extension of unemployment insurance, and we will not agree that we will just add more to our debt.

I have in my pocket, I just happened to notice, pictures of three of my grandchildren. I have had three—one born in November, one born 2 weeks ago, one born Sunday. We are talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars that they are going to have to pay off.

It is an addiction and a habit that we must break. This is \$9 billion added to the debt. I hope and pray this courage by Senator COBURN that calls us to account and says let's face the music and let's be honest with ourselves is respected, as I respect it. I think the American people respect it. When I am out talking in my townhall meetings and in my communities and in the airplanes, they tell me: You guys are spending recklessly. We can't believe it. What has happened?

The American people understand we cannot do this. There is no free lunch. Nothing comes from nothing. Somebody pays, and we cannot just spend and take the easy way every time without facing the consequences of a debt that we create. When we spend more than we take in, we borrow the money. We borrow it on the open market and we pay interest on the debt.

I want to say my Democratic colleagues are at it again, spending more

and not paying for it. Have the Republicans failed in their responsibility when they had the Presidency and a majority in the Senate? Yes, we should have done much better. But we have never seen the deficits we are seeing today—never, ever.

President Bush had a record deficit of \$450 billion his last year in office. This year, ending September 30, it was \$1.4 trillion—\$1,400 billion—three times. This year, when September 30 arrives, our budget experts tell us our annual deficit for this 1 year will be \$1.5 trillion, and we will average \$1 trillion a year for the years to come, more than twice the highest deficit we have ever had. We cannot do that. This is serious business.

I hope and pray the stimulus package will give us some benefit. I know it will. When we spend \$800 billion, every penny of it is borrowed, to be paid back someday, or the interest paid back by our children or grandchildren. This stimulus package, hopefully, will give us some lift, but we will carry the debt.

Do you know what the Congressional Budget Office told us when they analyzed the \$800 billion stimulus package? They said: Yes, it will provide a benefit for a few years. You will get a lift in the economy. But over 10 years, just over 10 years, it will have a net negative to the economy, a slight negative because you have to carry this debt, and it is crowding out private sector borrowing because the government borrowed it first. The government has to pay interest to all these people around the world who loan us this money.

There is no easy way out of this. It is time for us to be mature and grown up and make good decisions. It is time to say no to this legislation unless it is paid for, and we can pay for it. There are plenty of places in our budget it can be paid for.

I thank colleagues for allowing me to share these thoughts. I thank Senator COBURN for raising this important issue, for his courage in saying it is time to do better. We can do better. We can do this in the right way. We came close tonight to getting it done, I thought, in a paid-for way—so close. If we stand in there, maybe in a week or 2 we will be able to take care of the unemployment insurance and pay for it in a sound way.

I yield the floor.

Mr. COBURN. I yield 7½ minutes to the Senator from Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

Mr. JOHANNES. Mr. President, I am proud to rise tonight and follow, first of all, Senator SESSIONS. He has come to the floor many times on this issue and talked about the crisis that is building in our Nation relative to the spending and the debt. He always speaks with such eloquence.

I also want to say thank you to my colleague, Senator COBURN, for giving me an opportunity to come down tonight and offer a few thoughts in the

time that we have. I appreciate it immensely.

Senator COBURN puts himself in a very difficult situation by standing on principle because, of course, he makes himself a target of somebody who wants to say he is not caring about the people who are out there and looking for work. I know him and very much that is the opposite. But here is the point. Here is what we are facing in this Nation. We are literally getting to a stage in our history where the cascading amount of debt is like a huge snowball that now is gaining enormous momentum as it comes down the mountain. It is just growing bigger and bigger.

I am going to head back home to Nebraska tomorrow. I am going to have an opportunity to get across the State. I have some—we call them community coffees but townhall meetings. I am going to talk to the people of Nebraska. I will guarantee that one of the first things on their agenda will be to raise concern about the spending and the debt they see going on here in Washington.

Let me, if I might, take a moment and talk about the ethic of the State that I come from because I think it is enormously important in terms of what we are doing. I might add, I have had an opportunity as county commissioner, as city council member, a mayor, and a Governor to represent this great State.

In my job as mayor of Lincoln, I was a strong mayor, so I was the guy responsible for the budget. Here is how we did it. There was only so much money that was available, and what we would do is we would put a list down, page after page, of very important priorities for the community. At some point on this list there would be a line drawn and my budget director would say to me: Mayor, if you want to go below that line and fund some of these other important priorities, you are going to have to look above that line and figure out what you can live without because it is at this line that we have to quit spending. Otherwise, our bond rating will be in jeopardy. Otherwise, the economic stability of this community will be in jeopardy.

You know what. We made some very hard choices. We had some things we would have loved to have done, but we began to realize we just couldn't fit them into the budget.

Then I had the good fortune of becoming the Governor of the State of Nebraska, and it didn't change anything. The Nebraska Constitution says we can only borrow \$50,000. Maybe at some point in our State's history that was a handsome sum of money, but in effect what the constitution says is we cannot borrow money.

While other Governors were balancing budgets by issuing bonds and debt, we did not have that alternative. I had really three choices: raise taxes, which I did not like and opposed, cut spending, or do both. And I cut spending.

You could look at many places in that budget and say, well, MIKE, why did you choose this versus that? And you could have a great debate about why this priority versus that priority. But in the end, what we were doing was trying to choose the priorities for our State without borrowing money, without putting our State in debt, while maintaining economic stability.

I want to share that our State has fared as well as any State in the country during this very tough economic time. Our unemployment rate is about 4½ percent. We value our businesses, we create jobs, and we do not spend money we do not have.

I came out here a year ago—a little more than a year ago—to join the Senate. I am as proud today as I was then to be here on the Senate floor. But here is what I will tell you: I am worried about where we are headed with this budget. You see, this \$9 billion is very manageable. We want to provide unemployment insurance to the people who need it. We all do. We want to help these people. But we have a multitribillion-dollar budget here, and in effect what we are saying to the American people is that we cannot find \$9 billion to offset the cost of that.

We can do better than that because, if that is what we are acknowledging, that we cannot find \$9 billion to offset the cost of that important priority, then, my goodness, how will we ever deal with a budget deficit that is over \$1 trillion annually—annually—as far as the eye can see.

I see I am running out of time, but I want to end with this thought. I had a wonderful group of schoolkids from Nebraska in today, from Superior, NE. I have been to Superior many times. It is a great community. And these kids are great kids. As I was talking about the various things that had happened here, I said something to them that I hope made the point of the need to take responsible action on this budget. I said this year I will celebrate my 60th birthday. God will not keep me on this Earth long enough to pay the debt that has been incurred.

It is no consolation to Nebraskans that I go home and say to them: I have been here over a year, and I figured out who is at fault, because, you know what, they are not caring about who is at fault. They are saying: MIKE, we elected you to go back there and lend your voice to try to fix these problems.

It will be of no consolation for me to go home and say, well, it was the Democrats or it was the Republicans. It will be no consolation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL.) The Senator has used the time that has been yielded to him.

Mr. COBURN. I continue to yield.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may continue.

Mr. JOHANNIS. I said to those kids: I will not be on Earth long enough to pay this debt. I said to them: That means that will fall to you.

Do you know what I am saying to those kids? I am saying that the qual-

ity of their lives will be impacted by the fact that we could not take responsible action to deal with this debt.

I would like to say to them: You will not have any more wars. But they will have their own wars to fight. They will have their own pandemics to deal with. They will have their own recessions they have to somehow fund and finance. And they will have their own challenges they will have to deal with. You know what. If we do not start coming to grips with this debt, they will not have the resources to manage their way through those challenges.

You see, tonight is not about unemployment insurance. We want to help those people. Tonight is about making the statement that we have to take control of this because it is taking control of the future of those young people.

I yield the floor and the remainder of my time to Senator COBURN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. I will consume the remainder of our time.

I thank Senator JOHANNIS and Senator SESSIONS for being here.

We have heard the word “emergency.” The emergency that is in front of us is, we are a boat upside down fiscally, and there has to be a set of competing priorities for how we right that boat. But the No. 1 way we do not right the boat is to continue to add to the debt when we have programs that are not working and are wasting money, that are consuming precious resources we need to spend in other areas.

I am particularly interested in the very fast revisionist history that has been presented by the Senator from Michigan.

Let me tell you what happened here today. What happened here today was that a bill was offered and a motion to proceed on a bill that would accomplish this was totally paid for. That motion was tabled, with all of the Republican Senators voting against that, and some Democrats. We worked, through the next couple of hours, negotiating with the majority leader, with great help from Senator DURBIN, the senior Senator from Michigan, and a compromise was reached that we would, in fact, make sure no interruption would happen over the next 2 weeks to those who are dependent on unemployment insurance. That was communicated to the House of Representatives and the majority there, and it was rejected.

Then the final thing that happened is we had an adjournment resolution, for which everyone on our side of the aisle voted against to stay here. Now, that probably was not a truly sincere vote. I would put that out to my colleagues. But the fact is, the Senate does not have to go home. And the reflection for this not passing should not fall on the Senate; it should fall on the fact that the Senate came together and agreed on a solution that was not acceptable to the leadership in the House of Representatives.

So if there is a problem with what we have done today, it is that when we compromised in the Senate, the House would not take it. And we did compromise. We compromised on spending. We compromised on time. We compromised on making sure the people who needed to have this extension were going to get it.

I started out the debate earlier today on the basis of, where are we going in our country and what is our problem? Our problem is that we are drowning in debt, that our foreign policy is affected by it today, our ability to borrow is affected by it, and the manipulation of our ability to stabilize our own economy is affected by it. But, most importantly, what we do today has dramatic impact on those who know us.

It is unfortunate that we did not work out a deal tonight. So we are going to have a week of exposure for people who actually need the help. It is actually going to be harder on the bureaucrats to handle this. But it did not happen.

But I think the bigger question is, Should we just lay down and add more money to the debt because we could not get agreement across the Capitol? And so what we are going to do, when we come back, the day after we get back, we are going to have a cloture vote, which I think will be very difficult to achieve, but it may be achieved, because the same principle is going to lie here.

With over \$300 billion worth of waste, fraud, and duplication in the Federal budget every year, there are many of us who believe sincerely that it is time to stop spending money on lower priorities, time to stop calling things an emergency when we actually have the money in waste and fraud and duplication that we can use to pay for this.

We needed to start somewhere. The unfortunate aspect that we did not accomplish that this evening means some people will suffer. But I want you to contrast that with what the suffering is going to be in 2019 within our country when we have double-digit interest rates because we can no longer maintain our borrowing; when we are, in the next 9 years, going to pay \$5.6 trillion in interest on \$9.8 trillion we are going to borrow. Of that \$9.8 trillion, \$5.6 trillion is going to be interest payments.

What is coming is a tsunami to our country. So I feel a failure tonight because I could not accomplish both goals, both protecting our children and their future opportunity and taking care of those who need us right now. But the principle is still there.

We have to, in fact, start making tough choices. If we learn to do that together, the country benefits. And the future of our children is at hand. But we can no longer make the decision that we steal from our children to take care of things we are responsible for today. And I understand the resistance to that, but the fact is, our future depends on us starting today. It does not matter if you are liberal in philosophy

or conservative in philosophy, the economics will be borne home to everyone. It has to stop. And we have to start with us.

I appreciate the congeniality of my friend from Illinois. Tough week for us all—probably more tough for us than you. I congratulate you on your victory on the yearlong battle with a difference in philosophy on how we fix health care. But I know that 20 years from now, the Senator from Illinois and I will suffer the same pain if our kids are diminished by our lack of action here. So I will say, let's let it not be so. Let's let it not be so. Let's start making hard choices. Let's start doing what is in the best long-term interests of our country.

With that, I yield back a minute of our time to the Senator from Illinois.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Let me thank the Senator from Oklahoma for his professionalism and his own decorum during the course of this debate. We want to maintain that on this side of the aisle.

SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION ACT OF 2019

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3186, the Satellite Television Extension Act of 2010.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3186) to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3186) was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3186

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

This Act may be cited as the "Satellite Television Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 119 OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)(E), by striking "March 28, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010"; and

(B) in subsection (e), by striking "March 28, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(2) TERMINATION OF LICENSE.—Section 1003(a)(2)(A) of Public Law 111–118 is amended by striking "March 28, 2010", and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(b) AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—Section 325(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 325(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking "March 28, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010"; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking "March 29, 2010" each place it appears in clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting "May 1, 2010".

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3187 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3187) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3187) was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3187

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TAXES FUNDING AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) FUEL TAXES.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4081(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(b) TICKET TAXES.—

(1) PERSONS.—Clause (ii) of section 4261(j)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(2) PROPERTY.—Clause (ii) of section 4271(d)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2010.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 9502(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking "April 1, 2010" and inserting "May 1, 2010"; and

(2) by inserting "or the Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010" before the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 9502(e) of such Code is amended by striking "April 1, 2010" and inserting "May 1, 2010".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2010.